

TCS-4028-58

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7 November 1958

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Special Assistant to the Director  
for Planning and Development

**SUBJECT :** Status of the [REDACTED] 25X6C

1. From time to time since the initial establishment of the processing and PI center for handling of TALENT material at [REDACTED] we have had some troublesome times in connection with the establishment, maintenance, and performance of the [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED].

2. Whereas all things possible have not yet been accomplished to make these dependable processing and PI theatre centers, at the moment I am optimistic for the future for the following reasons:

a. Lt. Col. Daniel T. George, the Commander at [REDACTED] has just finished a visit to Washington PI installations including HTAUTOMAT and has been thoroughly briefed on Headquarters' processes, advanced equipment, and, most importantly, the importance of the work which his unit from time to time may be called upon to accomplish for theatre and Headquarters' needs. Already since my visit to [REDACTED] planned personnel have come aboard, two Army PIs are integrated and Navy personnel are available within an hour or so from neighboring stations in [REDACTED]. The Army PIs will also be used to read-out [REDACTED] photography when not working on TALENT. The acquisition of EH-6 processors (for handling thin based film with improved drying capabilities to replace A-9s) is being pressed by the Air Force and HTAUTOMAT has given assistance. The [REDACTED] at Base C frequently visits [REDACTED] and provides assistance. According to Lt. Col. George, relations with [REDACTED] and his people are excellent. It is his view, and that of Colonel Kemp (from AFCIN and responsible for following these matters) that with the requests from [REDACTED] for support and with the support of AFCIN for the present plans,

conditions should rapidly improve. The rearrangement of space for the processing, which will be more efficient and secure, is going forward. Procurement of lighttables and B & L stereo viewing equipment is proceeding. A new enlarger will add to their capabilities. From what Lt. Col. George indicated, it will now be possible to make promptly a duplicate positive while proceeding with the PI on the original negative. From the DP with the increased personnel [REDACTED] should be able to meet 25X6C the need in the theatre for sanitized materials in good shape.

Lt. Col. George also has responsibility for the Air Force target materials program in the Far East. As a means of assisting FICPAC (Pacific Fleet Intelligence) at Honolulu, which has responsibility for naval target folder program in the Pacific, Lt. Col. George is going to visit FICPAC on his return. There are clearly areas, I would judge from my own talk with FICPAC, where [REDACTED] can 25X6C greatly speed up FICPAC's work as material becomes available.

It is also worth noting that Lt. Col. George is conducting a training program for PIs at the Center in order to enable Air Force personnel to report Army items, etc.

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b. The Air Force has, according to reports of Lt. Col. George, proceeded to set up [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] on a fairly permanent basis with adequate air conditioning and with a maintenance man and a PI in custody of the equipment. With the personnel and equipment strengthening of [REDACTED] it appears that should an emergency arise there would be a dependable facility here.

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c. Colonel Kemp has just returned from investigation of both [REDACTED] An increase in personnel has been provided [REDACTED] to permit manning if necessary [REDACTED] The Air Force is tightening up its standards for the personnel to be available to these two units. Colonel Cole, USAFE (principal officer in charge of the [REDACTED]), has appointed Major John Teague to be in charge at [REDACTED] when it is active. He will shortly visit Washington for a tour of facilities and briefing along the lines just concluded for Lt. Col. George.

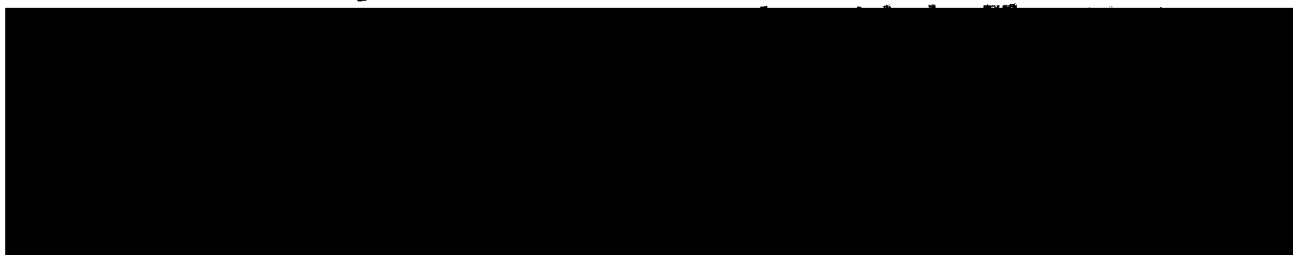
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3. Colonel Kemp has agreed that it would be helpful if the [redacted] as soon as it has finished processing a mission would forward to Headquarters its technical evaluation of the film. It is also agreed that the evaluation prepared by HTAUTOMAT will be made available to the relevant [redacted] so that its errors, if any, may be corrected. This practice, apart from obvious advantages, may also prevent levying unfair criticism.

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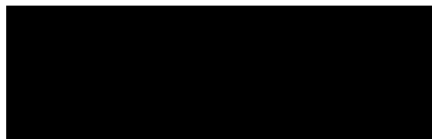
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4. Finally, as these [redacted] commanders get back to Washington and get a more comprehensive view of the way in which they fit importantly into the whole program, see what is possible, and get adequate support with modern equipment, we can get the kind of strong leadership which is essential to get dependable field operations. I can say with confidence that our relations with AFCIN in the foregoing matters at the moment are excellent, and we can expect that the CIA deputy commander at each installation will feel free to express his views on technical subjects and receive an adequate hearing.

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Intelligence Requirements Officer

PS/DCI: JQR:cw

- 1-SA/PD/DCI
- 2-OACSI
- 3-ONI
- 4-AFCIN
- 5-Director PIC
- 6-Ch DMD/PIC
- 7-Ops DPS/DCI
- 8-PDO DPS/DCI
- 9-PS/DCI subj file
- 10-PS/DCI chrono